

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-9 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claims 5 and 6 are amended; and no claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,162, 283 to Bae; and Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2005/0079898 to Park.

With respect to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 based on Bae, in order to expedite issuance of a patent in this case, Applicant has amended the independent claims to clarify patentable distinctions of the present invention over the cited references.

Specifically, Applicants have amended independent Claim 5 to recite a rotation preventing mechanism that includes an X-axis rotation preventing means, a Y-axis rotation preventing means, and a Z-axis rotation preventing means, each having an arrangement in which a concavity is formed on one body and engages with a respective convexity formed on the other body, with the rotation preventing mechanism being provided entirely within the superposed area in the extended state.

The Office Action asserts that Bae teaches a rotation prevention mechanism in Fig. 2, element 202. Applicant disagrees. In particular, element 202 of Bae, best shown in Fig. 4, is merely a lower casing frame. That is, the sliding housing 20 includes the upper casing frame 200 and a lower casing frame 202. An LCD is disposed on the upper surface 20a of the upper casing frame 200 and the first and second guide slots 26 are formed on the lower surface 20b of the lower casing frame 202. However, as set forth in the claimed invention discussed above, Claim 5 recites in part that the rotation preventing mechanism includes an X-axis, Y-

axis, and a Z-axis rotation preventing means, each rotation preventing means includes a concavity formed on one body that engages with a respective convexity formed on the other body. Further, the rotation preventing mechanism is provided entirely within the superposed area in the extended state. These features are not taught or suggested in the applied art, nor does the Office Action cite to a specific teaching in Bae for these features.

Further, the applied art does not teach or suggest a first slot is formed in the first body and is slidably engaged with a first slide piece provided on the second body, and a second slot is formed on the second body and is slidably engaged with a second slide piece provided on the first body, with the first and second slots being provided entirely within an area in which the first body and the second body are superposed in the opened state, as recited in independent Claim 6.

In contrast, Bae merely discusses a sliding type mobile telephone providing a closing force when the housing 20 is in the range of a first sliding length L1, and providing an opening force when the housing 20 is in the range of a second sliding length L2. That is, the sliding housing 20 has to be forcibly opened in the range L1, but is automatically opened in the range of L2. Accordingly, Bae discusses two guide slots 26 formed in the casing frame 202, and a module 30 formed with main housing 10. The guide slots 26 engage the module 30 to provide the closing force to housing 20 in the first sliding length L1 and the opening force to housing 20 in the sliding length L2. Bae further discusses a protrusion 16 formed on a front end of the main housing 10. When the sliding housing 20 is closed into the housing 10, a front end of the sliding housing 20 abuts the protrusion 16 of the main housing 10.

Accordingly, the features of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested in the applied art of Bae. Again, Claim 6 recites in part, a first slot formed in the first body slidably engaged with a first slide piece provided on the second body, and a second slot formed on the second body slidably engaged with a second slide piece provided on the first body, with the

first and second slots being provided entirely within an area in which the first body and the second body are superposed in the opened state. Applicant submits that the protrusion 16 with respect to the main body 10 of Bae does not form a "slot" as claimed. Even further, these elements are not formed "within an area in which the first body and the second body are superposed in the opened state." In the opened state of Bae, a keypad 12 must be exposed so the user is able to utilize the buttons for making a phone call.

Accordingly, the rotation preventing mechanism in an example of the invention is provided within the area in which the two bodies are superposed on the other in the extended state, thereby precluding the rotation preventing mechanism from being exposed to the exterior and lightening the restriction on the freedom of design. Further, by being provided within the superposed area, the space required for disposing the rotation preventing mechanism can be reduced as compared with the case where the mechanism is disposed in the whole area of the body. As a result, wider internal mounting space is available as space reduces. The features of the claimed invention are not taught in the applied art and therefore, the applied art cannot provide at least the advantages discussed above.

With respect to the rejection of Claim 9 under § 103 based on Park, as discussed in the Request for Reconsideration filed September 3, 2008, Park does not constitute prior art. The effective prior art date for Park is September 13, 2004. However, the present application claims priority from PCT/JP04/007870 filed May 31, 2004. Thus, Park does not constitute prior art, and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on Park, is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

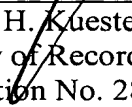
Respectfully submitted,

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